SPRINGER NATURE

# Challenges and Opportunities for Japanese Researchers

Springer Nature has published the results of a survey of > 1000 Japanese researchers, looking at the challenges and opportunities in data sharing in Japan[1]

## 95% of Japanese researchers have shared their data (n=975)

Sharing data is important to the majority of Japanese researchers:

**75%**

of respondents rated the discoverability of their data as being somewhat important (score of 6 or above out of 10)

(n=1062)

The top two reasons why researchers would be motivated to share data are:

**50%** 'To progress research' in their field
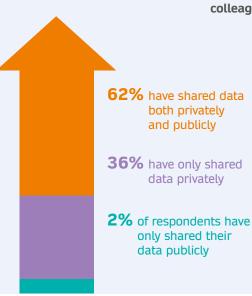
**42%** For the transparency and re-use of data

(n=994)

## Private sharing of data is a lot more common than public sharing of data

Private sharing of data is mainly amongst **known peers (66%)** and **colleagues from their own institution (41%)** (n=905)

**62%** have shared data both privately and publicly

**36%** have only shared data privately

**2%** of respondents have only shared their data publicly

The three most common methods of private sharing were:

email (65%)

USB or flash drives (41%)

file sharing services (39%)

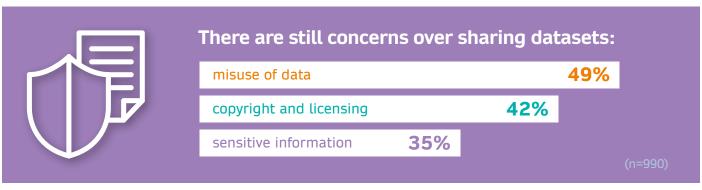The three most common ways of public sharing were: (n=569)

supplementary information to journal articles (51%)

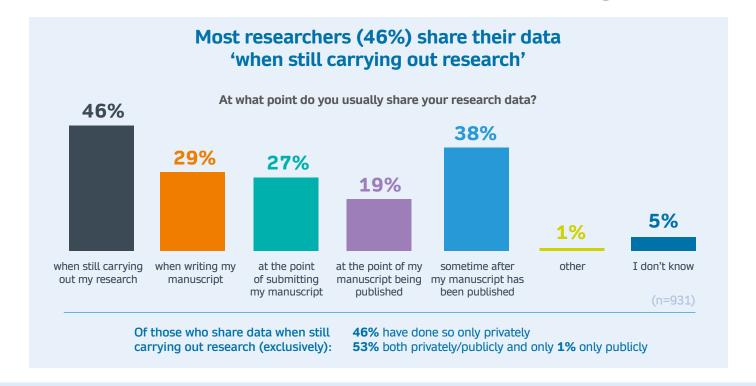lab or personal website (27%)

subject specific repository or data archive (25%)

## There are still concerns over sharing datasets:

| | |
|---|---|
| misuse of data | **49%** |
| copyright and licensing | **42%** |
| sensitive information | **35%** |

(n=990)

## Most researchers (46%) share their data 'when still carrying out research'

### At what point do you usually share your research data?

**46%** — when still carrying out my research

**29%** — when writing my manuscript

**27%** — at the point of submitting my manuscript

**19%** — at the point of my manuscript being published

**38%** — sometime after my manuscript has been published

**1%** — other

**5%** — I don't know

(n=931)

Of those who share data when still carrying out research (exclusively):

**46%** have done so only privately
**53%** both privately/publicly and only **1%** only publicly

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**56% of researchers have created a Data Management Plan (DMP)** (n=1170) **before. Of these:**

**45%** of researchers 'always' or 'the majority of the time' create DMPs

**59%** have implemented the DMPs they created 'always' or 'the majority of the time'

(n=655)

**Of those who haven't created a DMP before:**

**46%** had not heard of a DMP before

**45%** were not required to make a DMP by either their funder or institution

(n=509)

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**36% said time is the biggest challenge when it comes to implementing a DMP**
(n=601)

**Only 13% agree they have enough information to create a DMP**
58% are likely to create a DMP in future (n=1068)

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**The current state of awareness of funder requirements**

**34%** of respondents do not know what their main funders' requirements are in relation to DMPs (n=763)

**23%** of respondents do not know what their main funders' requirements are in relation to data sharing (n=723)

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To help increase awareness of funder requirements, Springer Nature has introduced a research data helpdesk for authors and editors that provides FREE advice on research data policies of funders, institutions and journals.
Email: researchdata@springernature.com